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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): René PAQUET et al
Atty. Docket No.: 2993-469US RM/JR/as
Serial No.: 10/681,341
Filed: October 9, 2003
Title: SHROUDED TURBINE BLADES WITH LOCALLY INCREASED
CONTACT FACES

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on a PTO/SB/08A/B form is a listing of the documents known to applicant in order to comply with applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

The submission of any document which is not a statutory bar is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

Statement of Relevancy


In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(3)(1) a concise explanation of the relevance of French Patent No.1,252,763 is enclosed herein as this listed reference is not in the English language. Particularly as noted in paragraph [0004] of the present application, FR 1,252,763 discloses, in one embodiment, a non-annular turbine blade shroud arrangement in which the mid-span shrouds extend acutely (i.e. not generally perpendicularly) from the blades, as seen in figure 2 thereof. The applicant believes that this concise explanation fulfills the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(3)(1) as outlined in MPEP section 609 A(3).

The listed documents are being submitted either in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of a national application or of the date of entry of the national stage in an international application; or pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1), within three (3) months from the date of an office action or of a search report issued in a foreign counterpart application citing each of the documents contained in the present statement; or pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (e)(2), within three (3) months from the first knowledge of each submitted document by any individual designated in C.F.R. §1.56 (c), when each such document was not cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application.

In the case of submissions under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) and (2), the undersigned Attorney/Agent of Record hereby certifies that the enclosed references are hereby submitted within three months (1) from the issuance of the foreign action or search report, or (2) from said first knowledge, respectively.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 9, 2004


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Encls. - Form PTO/SB/08A/B + copy of 1 reference

PTO/SB/08A/B (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0851-0031

Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A and B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet **1** of **1****Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/681,341
Filing Date	October 9, 2003
First Named Inventor	PAQUET, René et al
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	2983-469US RM/JR/as

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US-3,576,377	04-27-1971	Beanland et al	
		US-4,243,360	01-06-1981	Wright	
		US-4,710,102	12-01-1987	Ortolano	
		US-4,798,519	01-17-1989	Zipps et al	
		US-4,822,248	04-18-1989	Wertz et al	
		US-4,840,539	06-20-1989	Bourcier et al	
		US-5,083,903	01-28-1992	Erdmann	
		US-5,120,197	06-09-1992	Brooks et al	
		US-5,829,955	11-03-1998	Salto et al	
		US-6,164,916	12-26-2000	Frost et al	
		US-6,241,471	06-05-2001	Herron	
		US-6,371,727	04-16-2002	Stangeland et al	
		US-6,402,474	06-11-2002	Okuno	
		US-6,491,498	12-10-2002	Seleski et al	
		US-			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	†
		FR-1,252,763	12-26-1960	Société Générale de Constructions Électriques & Mécaniques (ALSTHOM)		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

(SOR.PAT.FORM 107 - 10/2001)